

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /095 W
-----024350 190055Z /62

P 190050Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1449
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02027

DEPARTMENT PASS TO INTERIOR FOR OMSN AND OTA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, TQ, US, JA
SUBJECT: 45TH TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (TC): JAPANESE DEMARCHE
CONCERNING WAR CLAIMS

1. ON MAY 18 JAPANESE MINISTER KATO AND MISOFF
IMANISHI CALLED ON USUN MINISTER COUNSELLOR PETREE, DELOFF
STEWART AND MISOFF KRIENDLER AT KATO'S REQUEST ON
INSTRUCTION FROM TOKYO. KATO AND IMANISHI NOTED THAT
THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF THE MICRONESIAN
WAR CLAIMS ISSUE DURING THIS TC SESSION AND SAID TOKYO
WAS CONCERNED THAT THE PICTURE WAS A "LITTLE DISTORTED"
IN THE RECORD. THEY REVIEWED THE GOJ POSITION THAT THE
1969 AGREEMENT "FULLY AND FINALLY DISCHARGED" JAPAN FROM
ALL LIABILITY FOR MICRONESIAN WAR CLAIMS AND NOTED THAT
US CONCURRENCE WITH THIS VIEW HAD BEEN REITERATED IN THE
OCTOBER 12, 1977 EXCHANGE OF NOTES VERBALE BETWEEN THE
DEPARTMENT AND THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.

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2. NOTING THAT SOME ACTION IS REQUIRED, IMANISHI
SAID THE GOJ DID NOT WANT TO EXERCISE ITS PEROGATIVE OF
MAKING A STATEMENT IN THE TC OR REQUESTING THE CIRCULATION
OF ITS VIEWS IN DOCUMENTARY FORM, SINCE THAT WOULD EXPOSE
A DELICATE BILATERAL ISSUE TO 3RD PARTY SCRUNITY.
THE GOJ IS CONCERNED ABOUT TWO ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION:
THE TC DEBATE AND THE REPORT OF THE TC TO THE SC.

3. IMANISHI SAID THAT ON MAY 14 A 13-MEMBER MICRONESIAN DELEGATION, REPRESENTING THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE PALAU AND NORTHERN MARIANAS WAR CLAIMS COMMISSIONS, HAD VISITED TOKYO WHERE THE GOJ POSITION WAS EXPLAINED TO THEM AT THE MFA. THE DELEGATION WAS TOLD THAT THE GOJ VIEWS THE QUESTION OF WAR CLAIMS AS AN INTERNAL MATTER TO BE RESOLVED BETWEEN THE US AND MICRONESIA.

4. IN RESPONSE TO PETREE'S QUERY ABOUT WHAT WE MIGHT DO, IMANISHI SUGGESTED A STATEMENT NOTING THAT PURSUANT TO THE 1969 AGREEMENT JAPAN HAD "FULLY AND FINALLY DISCHARGED" ANY LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES IT MIGHT HAVE HAD. PETREE PROMISED TO REPORT THE DEMARCHE PROMPTLY AND TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS WITHIN THE TIME FRAME OF THIS TC SESSION. (CLOSING STATEMENTS ARE NOW SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 25.) HE PROMISED TO INFORM KATO OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY.

5. CONCERNING THE EQUITABLE CONSIDERATIONS IN FAVOR OF FULLY SATISFYING ADJUDICATED MICRONESIAN CLAIMS, KATO SAID THAT IS A MATTER FOR THE FUTURE AND EMPHASIZED AGAIN THAT THE MICRONESIANS SHOULD KNOW THAT THE MATTER IS LEGALLY SETTLED. KATO INDICATED THAT THE GOJ IS
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INTERESTED IN THE AREA AND WOULD EXTEND ASSISTANCE IN THE FUTURE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: THE DEPT VIEWS ARE REQUESTED BY COB TUESDAY, MAY 23. LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, PROPERTY WAR CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN02027
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780210-0462
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780538/aaaabghp.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6375179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2631040
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 45TH TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (TC): JAPANESE DEMARCHE CONCERNING WAR CLAIMS
TAGS: PORG, TQ, US, JA, UNGA, TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6375179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014